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DATE: August 9, 2007

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TO: Examiner Nicholas W. Woodall, Group Art Unit 3733
 COMPANY: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

FAX NUMBER: 571-273-8300
 PHONE NUMBER:

FROM: Douglas A. Collier

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FAX NUMBER: (317) 636-1507

RE: Response to Final Office Action for U.S. Patent Application No. 10/674,036 to Jeff R. Justis

COMMENTS: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at 571-273-8300 on:

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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

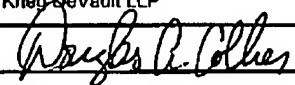
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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/674,036
	Filing Date	September 29, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Jeff R. Justis
	Art Unit	3733
	Examiner Name	Nicholas W. Woodall
	Attorney Docket Number	MSDI-137/PC877.00
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		12

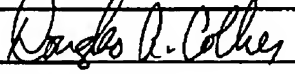
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Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	Krieg DeVault LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	Douglas A. Collier		
Date	August 9, 2007	Reg. No.	43,558

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature			
Typed or printed name	Douglas A. Collier	Date	August 9, 2007

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)	
)	Before the Examiner
Jeff R. Justis.)	Nicholas W. Woodall
)	
Serial No.: 10/674,036)	Group Art Unit: 3733
)	
Filed: September 29, 2003)	Attorney Docket: MSDI-137/PC977.00
)	
INSTRUMENTS AND METHODS FOR)	August 9, 2007
SECURING CONNECTING ELEMENTS)	
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RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed June 14, 2007, please enter and consider the following amendments and remarks. No fees or extensions of time are believed due for consideration of the enclosed. However, please provide any extensions of time necessary and charge any fees which may be due to Deposit Account No. 12-2424, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

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(Date of Transmission)

Douglas A. Collier
Name of Registered Representative
Douglas A. Collier
Signature

August 9, 2007
Date of Signature

Response to Final Office Action
Serial No. 10/674,036
Attorney Docket No. MSDI-137/PC977.00
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